

[4th February 1925]

was the place recommended by the Committee and the authorities had no other alternative than to accept the wholesome recommendation of the Advisory Committee."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—“ With reference to clause (c), may I know when the Excise Advisory Committee took up the work of examining the question ? ”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“ The Advisory Committee sat on last Monday and reviewed the evidence, and a draft report is being prepared.”

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—“ When did they begin ? ”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Clause (a) of this question refers to the recommendations of the local boards and municipalities, but the answer refers to Advisory Committees. What is the answer to the question ? ”

Agriculture.

Admission of Tiyya students into the Government Model Agricultural School at Taliparamba.

* 64 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state with reference to question No. 628 answered at the meeting, dated 10th October 1924, whether it is a fact that the three Tiyya students who applied for admission into the Government Model Agricultural School at Taliparamba were not admitted by the Deputy Director of Agriculture and the headmaster of the school owing to strong caste pollution ?

A.—The Government have no information beyond that given in the answer to question No. 628.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ Sir, with reference to the main question, I find that out of 32 applications received 26 Nayars were admitted into the school, but the three applicants who were Tiyyas were not admitted. Therefore, I wish to know whether the Government are going to pull out by the root this hopeless caste pollution, or whether they are going to have these schools solely for the benefit of the people belonging to the orthodox community ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ There is a strong feeling of caste prejudice, and it was represented to the Government that if these three Tiyyas were admitted, the other 26 Nayars would go away. Government thought that in those circumstances it was better to have a school containing 26 Nayars than have a school for three Tiyyas. But if the hon. Member will assure me of an attendance of twenty pupils including Tiyyas, arrangements will be made to start a separate school and a separate hostel.”

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask the hon. the Minister for Development whether he would respect the feeling in this House, apart from the feeling of the 26 Nayars, that it is better to have a school training three Tiyyas than 26 Nayars ? (‘ Hear, hear ’) ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ It is open to the hon. Member to have that view and get the approval of Government before they take action.”

4th February 1925]

Excise.

Recommendations of local bodies regarding the location of toddy and arrack shops.

* 63 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the recommendations of the local boards and municipalities as to the location of toddy and arrack shops have been acted upon by the Government;

(b) whether any resolution has been passed by the Local Boards Conference, Southern Group, recently held at Madura in regard to the matter; and

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps on the matter?

A.—(a) Out of 154 cases in which change of site was recommended in 1923–24 by Advisory Committees on which these Boards are represented, the recommendation was acted upon in 123 cases.

(b) Yes.

(c) No. The Excise Advisory Committee is examining the question.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—“ May I know whether the local boards and municipalities are asked to make recommendations as to the location of toddy and arrack shops? ”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“ The local boards and municipalities have got their elected representatives on these Advisory Committees.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—“ I want to know whether the local boards are always asked about the location of toddy shops.”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“ The local boards are always asked to send in representatives to the Advisory Committees.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—“ May I have an answer to my question in clause (a) whether the recommendations of the local boards and municipalities are carried out? ”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“ The answer to clause (a) says that out of 154 cases in which a change of site was recommended in 123 cases the recommendations were accepted by the Government.”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—“ The answer given is not an answer to my question.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AVYANGAR:—“ May I know if any recommendations for removing shops were ever accepted? ”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“ That does not arise.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASAN:—“ May I know whether Government received a complaint from the residents of Mirsapat that a toddy shop was removed next to the infectious diseases hospital in Narasampet, Madras, where they were afraid to go for drink and whether that is one way of prohibiting drink? ”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“ That is one case in which the Advisory Committee had recommended the removal of a shop from a convenient place to a place near the infectious diseases hospital. That

[4th February 1925]

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI:—"Of course, they are not. It is open to the Hindu community as a whole to move the High Court and change the rules so as to admit members of the Tiyya community and other depressed classes into the hostel."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"If there is a desire to give benefit to the orthodox community, I do not quarrel with that intention and by all means let them do so. But I want to know if they are not going to respect our sentiments and feelings as well."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Emigration.

Wages of coolies in the Assam tea estates.

65 Q.—**Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:** Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have since obtained any reply from the Government of Assam in regard to the wages paid to the coolies, the nature of work they are employed upon, etc., and if they have, whether they will place copies of the correspondence that has passed between them on the table of the House;

(b) whether five annas represents the normal wage in the Assam tea estates for hoeing and pruning an area of 3,500 square feet and whether there are many other estates in which the wages are either above or less than the scale referred to above; and

(c) the scale of wages at which coolies employed in plucking leaves in the Assam tea estates are remunerated?

4.—(a) & (b) The only correspondence which the Government have had with the Government of Assam later than that contained in the papers which were laid on the table of the House on 19th November 1924 has been a telegraphic inquiry made with reference to this question. The reply received is to the effect that normal wages in the tea estates for hoeing cannot be definitely stated as tasks vary with season, locality, soil and depth of cultivation. Roughly, the coolies get from three to five annas for work which may vary from deep hoeing an area of 1,700 square feet to light hoeing an area of 4,300 square feet. Work outside the task work is always available and eight hours' work earns at least eight annas, usually considerably more. Pruning is done in cold weather and paid by the number of bushes pruned—generally the wages are one anna for pruning eight bushes.

(c) One pice per pound for fine plucking and a little less for coarse plucking.

Jails.

The whereabouts of Mr. Nilakanta Brahmachari.

66 Q.—**Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:** Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) where Nilakanta Brahmachari, who was convicted by the Madras High Court in 1922-23 for some political offence, is now confined;